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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/044,605	01/10/2002	Chen-Chun Chen	D&F-019	9498

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2099 GATEWAY PLACE
SUITE 320
SAN JOSE, CA 951101017

EXAMINER

GILMAN, ALEXANDER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

DATE MAILED: 02/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/044,605

Applicant(s)

CHEN, CHEN-CHUN

Examiner

Alexander Gilman

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or
(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

1. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yang.

Yang (US 6, 6093,028) discloses a rotatable non-foldable plug comprising:

a plug (66);

a rotary case (33);

a top cover (4) having a circle opening and an annular frame.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Li.

Li (US 6, 488, 510) discloses a rotatable non-foldable plug comprising:

a plug (27, 26);

a rotary case (15);

a top cover (12) having a circle opening and an annular frame (36);

a restricting mechanism for limiting said rotary case to rotate (25, 38)

3. Claims 1-3, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Seo.

Seo (US 6, 364,716) discloses a rotatable non-foldable plug comprising:

a plug ;

a rotary case (10);

a top cover (50a) having a circle opening and an annular frame (52);

a restricting mechanism for limiting said rotary case to rotate (16, 54).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 9 –24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seo in view of Yang .

With regard to claims 9-11, 17, and 23, Seo discloses all of the limitations except for a circle opening having a diameter smaller than an inside diameter of said annular frame; an annular groove and an annular protrusion.

Yang (US 6,093,028) discloses

a circle opening having a diameter (diameter of flange 41) smaller than an inside diameter of said annular frame;

an annular groove (33) and an annular protrusion (41).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the Seo with the rotating features as taught by Yang, to prevent any inclinations during rotations.

With regard to claims 12, 13, 18, and 19, Seo when modified by Yang discloses all of the limitations except for the annular groove with a plurality of position points (concave points) and the annular protrusion includes a plurality of position units (elastic juts).

Seo discloses the annular groove with an elastic jut (16) and the annular protrusion includes a plurality of position points (concave points).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the Seo with a plurality of position points (concave points) on the groove and a plurality of

Art Unit: 2833

position units (elastic juts) on the annular protrusion, since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 70.

With regard to claims 14 -16, 20-22, and 24, Seo when modified by Yang discloses (Seo)
a first protrusion (18) and a second protrusion (56).

Seo does not disclose that the second protrusion is located on the inside wall of the frame.

It was held that would be no invention in shifting location of parts to a different position since the operation of the device would not be thereby be modified *In re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 70.

2. Claims 4, 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Li in view of Chen.

Li discloses all of the limitations except for a foldable plug comprising:

- a transverse rod with two grooves ;
- at least two blades ;
- at least two conductive terminals ;
- a concave storage base;
- an elastic engaging element .

Chen (US 6,398,566) discloses a foldable plug comprising:

- a transverse rod (31) with two grooves (311);
- at least two blades (331);
- at least two conductive terminals (321);
- a concave storage base;
- an elastic engaging element (25).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the Li device with a foldable plug, as taught by Chen, for safety reasons.

3. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Li in view of Chen as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of Chen (US 6,275,002).

Li when modified by Chen (US 6,398,566) discloses all of the limitations except for integrality of the blades and the terminals.

Art Unit: 2833

Chen (US 6,275,002) discloses integrality of the blades (510) and the terminals (540).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the Li device with the blades and the terminals made integrally, as taught by Chen (US 6,275,002), to simplify manufacturing.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Gilman whose telephone number is (703) 305-0847. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7724 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.

Alexander Gilman

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alex Gilman".

February 3, 2003

McMillin (US 5,957,701) disclose a rotatable plug comprising:

- a plug (20a);

- a rotary case (20);

- a top cover (20) having a circle opening and an annular frame (col. 3, lines 20-24);

- a restricting mechanism for limiting said rotary case to rotate (not-shown, but inherently is necessary to limit a rotation in range of connecting elements 5 and 7